

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIE-00 AID-05 EB-08 EUR-12 COME-00

ISO-00 TRSE-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-10

ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 SP-02 L-03 /088 W

-----129302 251903Z /46

O 251830Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8004

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 17383

FODAG

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, FAO

SUBJ: FAO; SUSPENSE ACCOUNT; POST HARVEST LOSSES FUND

REF: ROME 17012

1. AS WILL BE SEEN FROM REPORT OF OCT 21 GENEVA GROUP MEETING, GROUP URGED CO-CHAIRMEN TO PRODUCE AND CIRCULATE FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO OCT 28 GROUP MEETING DRAFT AMENDMENT TO DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S POST HARVEST LOSS PROPOSAL INVOLVING SUSPENSE ACCOUNT. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH PECKHAM (U.K.) FODAG DEVELOPED FOLLOWING TEXT WHICH IS DIVERGENT FROM THAT IN REFTEL AND SOMEWHAT SIMPLER IN CONCEPT.

TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

"RECOGNIZING THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEETING THE FOOD NEEDS OF THE WORLD, OF REDUCING FOOD, AND PARTICULARLY POST-HARVEST LOSSES,

"BEARING IN MIND THE TERMS OF RESOLUTION 35/75 ESTABLISHING THE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT AND STIPULATING INTER ALIA THAT UNUSED FUNDS FROM THAT ACCOUNT SHOULD REVERT  
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TO THE GENERAL FUND AND THUS BECOME REIMBURSABLE TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS,

"DECIDES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (COAG) AT ITS 4TH SESSION AND OF THE COUNCIL AT ITS 71ST SESSION TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL FUND FOR REDUCTION OF FOOD LOSSES

UNDER ARTICLE 6.7 OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS,

"RECOMMENDS, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, THAT ANY REIMBURSABLE BALANCES EXISTING IN THE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED UNDER RESOLUTION 35/75 (AFTER TRANSFER OF \$       MILLION TO THE SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT (WORKING CAPITAL FUND)) ESTABLISHED UNDER RESOLUTION       -77 BE TRANSFERRED, WITH THE APPROVAL OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN THIS RESOLUTION, IN AN AMOUNT OF UP TO \$10 MILLION AT THE END OF THE 76-77 BIENNIUM TO THE FUND ESTABLISHED BY THIS RESOLUTION."

2. REMAINDER OF DRAFT RESOLUTION IS IDENTICAL TO LAST 4 PARAGRAPHS OF ORIGINAL TEXT.

3. IN VIEW OF THE LIKELIHOOD THAT WE WILL NEED SOLUTION OF THIS KIND REGARDLESS OF OUTCOME OF CURRENT CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON, WE PROPOSE TO DISTRIBUTE THIS TEXT TO GENEVA GROUP ACCENTING ITS PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL NATURE AND ITS LACK OF STATUS WITH EITHER USG OR UKG. BELIEVE SUCH A CONSULTATION NECESSARY TO BRING GENEVA GROUP TOGETHER ON BASIS OF EXISTING CONSENSUS FAVORING NON-CONFRONTATIONAL SOLUTION WHICH DEFENDS INTEGRITY OF SUSPENSE ACCOUNT. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE OPTION OF PARTICIPATING OR NON-PARTICIPATING IN THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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DRAFT CONSENSUS AND THUS AGREEING OR NOT AGREEING TO TRANSFER OF BALANCES REIMBURSABLE TO THEM. CONCEPT OF ALLOWING BALANCES TO BE USED IN FUND UNTIL REPLACED NOT WELL REGARDED BY UK AND ACCORDING TO PECKHAM, NO LONGER SUPPORTED BY DUTCH PERMREP WHO ORIGINALLY PROPOSED IT. HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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